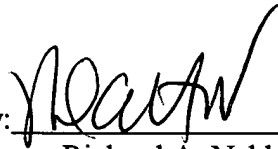This application represents the U.S. National Phase of International Application No. PCT/EP01/06589. These preliminary amendments are made to remove multiple dependencies from claims and to better conform the claims to U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,

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In The Claims:

Please amend claims 1-2, 4, 6-13 and 18, and add new claims 21-22 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of processing an online transaction over a communication network, comprising the steps of:

storing a plurality of objects comprising object data and object attributes containing further information about the object in a catalog server (20) accessible by a plurality of clients (10),

displaying, upon request from a client (10), an object including object attributes on a client display, and

executing, on a transaction server (30), a transaction relating to an object selected by the client (10) using the information contained in the object attributes,

wherein the object attributes are transmitted directly from the catalog server (20) to the transaction server (30).

2. (Amended) A method of processing an online transaction over a communication network comprising the steps of:

storing in a catalog server (20) a plurality of objects comprising object data and object attributes containing further information about the object and further storing an ID identifying the object,

transmitting upon request an object together with the corresponding object ID from the catalog server (20) to a client (10) for display,

receiving at the catalog server (20) an object request from a transaction server (30), the request including the object ID,

returning from the catalog server (20) to the transaction server (30) the object including object attributes corresponding to the received object ID.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 2 [or 3,] wherein the object ID is transmitted from the catalog server (20) to the client (10) together with the URL of the server (30).

6. (Amended) The method of claim 4 [or 5] wherein the object displayed on a client display is assigned a display field for user selection of the object, wherein the selection of the object by a user initiates a transfer of the ID to the URL of the transaction server (30).

7. (Amended) The method of [anyone of] claim[s]1 [to 6]-wherein the object attributes are represented by numerical values and/or text strings.

8. (Amended) The method of [anyone of] claim[s] 1 [to 7] wherein an object attribute represents price information about the object.

9. (Amended) The method of [anyone of] claim[s] 1 [to 8] wherein the objects can be transmitted to the client for display in different formats including XML, HTML, XHTML or WML formats.

10. (Amended) The method of [anyone of] claim[s] 1 [to 9] wherein an object selected by a client is stored on the transaction server together with the corresponding object attribute and a client specific session ID.

11. (Amended) The method of [anyone of] claim[s] 1 [to 10] wherein the transaction server forwards to a client a request for finally confirming the transaction before executing the transaction.

12. (Amended) A computer program product comprising computer executable code for carrying out the steps of: [a method of anyone of claims 1 to 11.]

    storing a plurality of objects comprising object data and object attributes containing further information about the object in a catalog server (20) accessible by a plurality of clients (10),

    displaying, upon request from a client (10), an object including object attributes on a client display, and

____ executing, on a transaction server (30), a transaction relating to an object selected by the client (10) using the information contained in the object attributes,

____ wherein the object attributes are transmitted directly from the catalog server (20) to the transaction server (30).

13. (Amended) A computer readable data storage medium containing a computer program comprising program code for carrying out the steps of: [a method of anyone of claims 1 to 11, when loaded into a computer.]

____ storing a plurality of objects comprising object data and object attributes containing further information about the object in a catalog server (20) accessible by a plurality of clients (10),

____ displaying, upon request from a client (10), an object including object attributes on a client display, and

____ executing, on a transaction server (30), a transaction relating to an object selected by the client (10) using the information contained in the object attributes,

____ wherein the object attributes are transmitted directly from the catalog server (20) to the transaction server (30). [a method of anyone of claims 1 to 11, when loaded into a computer.]

18. (Amended) The catalog server of [anyone of] claim[s] 15 [to 17,] wherein the stored objects can be transmitted to a client for display in different formats including XML, HTML, XHTML and WML formats.

--21. The method of claim 5 wherein the object displayed on a client display is assigned a display field for user selection of the object, wherein the selection of the object by a user initiates a transfer of the ID to the URL of the transaction server (30).--

--22. The method of claim 5 wherein the object displayed on a client display is assigned a display field for user selection of the object, wherein the selection of the object by a user initiates a transfer of the ID to the URL of the transaction server (30).--